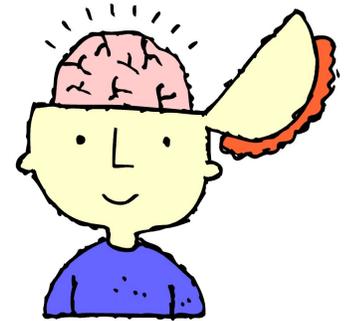


Sept. 2011

Symons Elementary School



Room 15 News

Dear Room Fifteen Student,

Welcome back to Symons! I'm so glad we will be spending the year together. We will be doing and learning lots of new and amazing things in Fourth Grade. We will work together to learn new skills and new ideas about our world.

This newsletter will answer questions you may have about this year. I hope you will take a few minutes to read it.

See you in September,

Mrs. B-W (Mrs. Brobst-Walsh)

What's it like to be in Fourth Grade?

Being in Room 15 will feel just like any other class you have been in. We will be learning about the **United States** during most of the year in social studies. Our science units will include learning about **living things, the sun, earth and moon, states of matter and magnets and electricity**. We will **read and write texts in many genres**. We will be keeping a **writer's notebook**, a **reader's notebook** and a **word study notebook**. In **math**, we will continue to learn many new skills.

During the year everyone will have many opportunities to work as a class, alone, with a partner and in a small group. We will do research, play learning games, do projects and experiments, write books, go on field trips and present a dessert theater. We will be busy learning all year long!

Suggested Supplies

- *book bag or backpack
- *least 3 pencils, per month
- *small pencil sharpener, with a cover
- *crayons
- *colored pencils
- *markers (not permanent)
- *scissors
- *glue sticks
- *ruler (with in. and cm)
- *erasers
- *P.E. shirt (*with name printed on the front and back*)
- **pocket folder for Spanish*
- *no trapper keepers please**
(they are too big for our desks, thanks!)



Donations Needed!

Our classroom community would benefit from the following donations:

- *black Flair brand markers
- *2 x 2 sticky notes
- *3 x 3 sticky notes
- *sandwich/snack zip-lock bags
- *Kleenex
- *hand-sanitizer

Thanks for your donations!



Are you a Bucket-Filler?

This year we will learn about filling buckets and how it can make our learning community the best it can be. Stay tuned for more information.

We will be looking for ways to fill buckets all year!
Have you filled someone's bucket today?



Water Bottles

Researchers tell us that to function well, brains need water. You may bring in a bottle of water to keep at your desk.



I will be asking you to take your bottle home each evening so it may be recycled or washed. **Please do not bring in frozen bottles.** They create puddles and wet desks. Fourth graders can fill-up bottles in the morning, at recess and at lunch.

Lifelong Guidelines

The Lifelong Guidelines are the rules we live by in Room 11. They are:

1. Be trustworthy
2. Be Truthful
3. Use active listening
4. No putdowns
5. Do your personal best



For following the Lifelong Guidelines the class receives puzzle pieces. A reward is given for each 100 pieces earned. Every 500 pieces we have a pizza lunch! Students who do not follow these guidelines will be asked to fill out a "Peaceful Note" and take it home for parent discussion and signature.

Remembering these guidelines will help us all have a great year!



WILL I HAVE HOMEWORK?



Yes, you will. 4th Graders should have between 35 and 40 minutes of work to do each evening. **There will be homework most nights, except Friday.** Every evening you will be expected to read and write.

Students who complete and turn in all work will receive a **Good Work Slip** on Fridays. Those who have received a Good Work Slip each week for 10 of 11 weeks will be invited to a special luncheon cooked by Mrs. B-W. We will have these special luncheons at the end of each marking period.

A PEACEful Room

To make sure everyone has the best possible chance to learn we are peaceful. This means Room Fifteen Students will:

- have a Positive attitude
- Everyone is ready to learn
- be paying Attention
- be Caring, Cooperative & Considerate at all times,
- Every day.



Our Web Site

Our class web site will be updated on a weekly basis. On our web site you will find homework, schedules, College Words and words we are using for our word study, homework materials and links to great sites that will help with homework and expand learning. There is also an area just for parents! So . . . check it out at:

<http://roomfifteen.weebly.com>



And
Away
We Go. .



Who is Mrs. B-W?

Field trips are an important part of life in Room Fifteen. Plans are being made for our class to visit nearby locations. These trips are designed to go with the units we are studying in Science and Social Studies.

Our biggest trip may be spending the day in the 1840's at the McGuffey School at Greenfield Village. We will fund this trip by putting on a dessert theater for our families and friends .

All Fourth Graders usually take several trips. These may include a play , a visit to a science museum ,and our traditional day at Rolling Hills Water Park.

"Fourth graders are awesome!" raves Mrs. B-W. The smile on her face clearly shows that even after $(5 \times 6) + (2 + 3)$ years of teaching she is excited about spending this coming school year with her students.



When Mrs. B-W was in fourth grade she lived in Colorado.

"My favorite things to do when I was in 4th grade were reading, playing with trolls (a kind of doll) and doing things with Girl Scouts. I loved

camping, fishing and hiking in the mountains with my family," said Mrs. B-W.

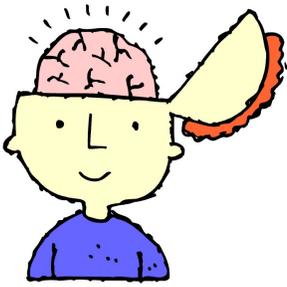
She went to college and began her teaching career in Washington State. Today, Mrs. B-W lives in Ann Arbor with her husband. When she is not teaching, she likes to read, quilt, cook and go places with her husband. They take lots of trips to see places of historical importance. Both Mrs. B-W and Mr. Walsh love history!

"I love learning!" said Mrs. B-W. This summer she has been busy reading books. Her summer goal was to read a book everyday. Will she make it? You have to ask her when school starts.

Finally, Mrs. B-W spent a weekend on Michigan's beautiful Leelanau Peninsula with Mr. Walsh. She hiked and spent time near Lake Michigan. "It was a great way to end the summer," she reported.

She is looking forward to meeting you and learning with you this school year. Be ready, she'll keep you busy, but you will learn lots and have fun too!





How to contact Mrs. B-W

email - Brobstwalsha@milanareaschools.org

voicemail - 734-439-5317

Looking Ahead...

September 6—School Starts—1/2 Day

September 7—Symons Open House

and Candy Sale begins

September 16—Citizenship Day Activities

September 23—Autumnal Equinox—fall begins

September 30—Our First Writer's Celebration

October 5—Author visit—Kelly Di Pucchio

October 11, 12, 13, 18, 19 —MEAP Testing

October 14—Picture Day



*“Do what you can, with what you have,
where you are.”*

— *Theodore Roosevelt*

Room Fifteen, a Community of Learners

